

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /132 W

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R 201800Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8828

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16807

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GW

SUBJECT: BUNDESWEHR REORGANIZATION

1. MOD SOURCES TOLD US NOVEMBER 19 THAT DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER WILL PRESENT THE BUNDESWEHR REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL TO PARLIAMENT ON NOVEMBER 28, FOLLOWING WHICH A GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON THE MATTER WILL BE MADE PUBLIC. THE CORE OF THE FINAL PLAN WILL INVOLVE THE RESHUFFLING OF SEVERAL THOUSAND PERSONNEL SLOTS WHICH WILL PERMIT THE FORMING OF THREE ADDITIONAL COMBAT BRIGADES AND GREATER ARMORED STRENGTH IN THE ARMY. MANPOWER STRENGTH WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED AT ABOUT 495,000 MEN AND THE REORGANIZATION WILL AFFECT ONLY SLIGHTLY THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY. PRINCIPLE FEATURES OF THE ARMY REORGANIZATION WILL BE THE ABOLISHING OF SOME OF THE SERVICE AND SUPPORT UNITS AND THE ABOLISHING OF CERTAIN SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE SLOTS AT THE COMPANY
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AND BATTALION LEVELS. THE SPACES THUS SAVED WILL BE

SO USED AS TO INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF THE COMBAT UNITS.

2. THE PROPOSAL, WE UNDERSTAND, WILL NOT PERMIT ANY MONETARY SAVINGS AS ORIGINALLY HOPED. FINALLY, THE PROPOSAL WILL LINK TOGETHER MORE CLOSELY THE OPERATIONS OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY AND THE ARMY COMBAT CORPS, AND CALLS/ FOR AN INCREASE IN THEAMOUNT OF TIME RESERVISTS WILL BE CALLED UO FOR PERIODS OF ANNUAL SERVICE. THERE WILL BE NO CUT IN THE 15 MONTH PERIOD CONSCRIPTS MUST CURRENTLY SERVE IN THE FORCES.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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